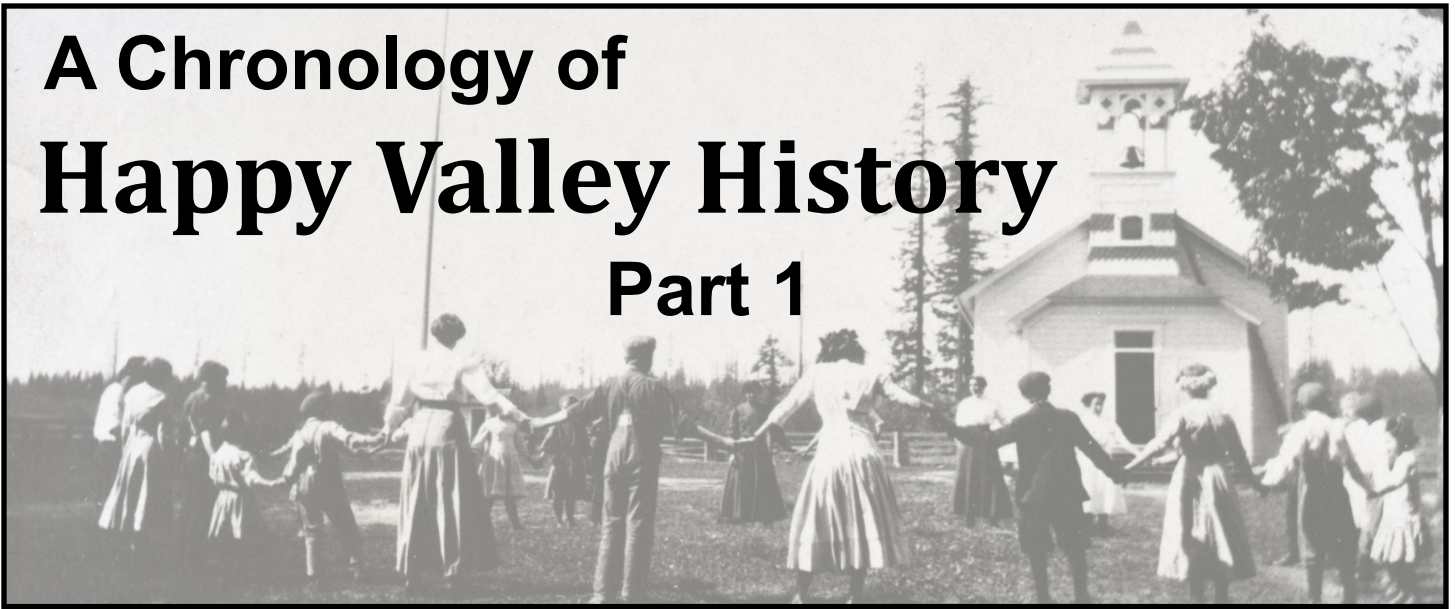


A Chronology of Happy Valley History Part 1



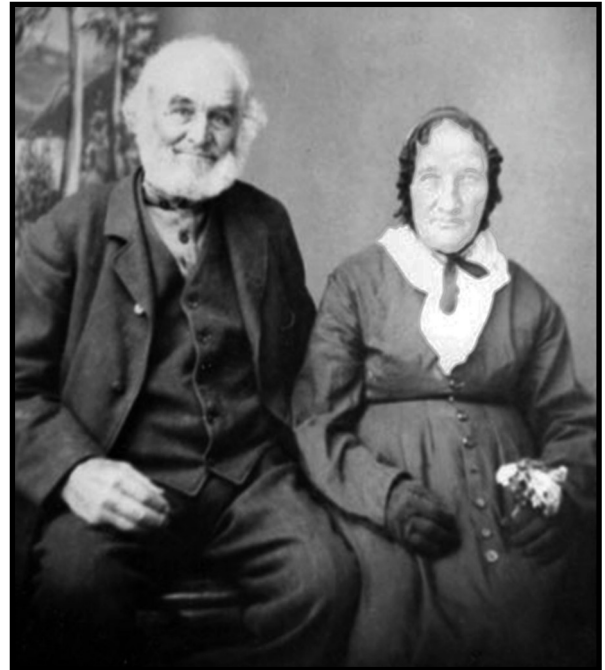
1850 – The Deardorffs cross the plains to Oregon.¹

September 27, 1850 – The Donation Land Claim Act is passed by the U.S. Congress.



John M. Deardorff

Courtesy: The Deardorff family



Christian and Matilda Deardorff

Courtesy: Clackamas County Historical Society

1851 – Christian and Matilda Deardorff settle on a donation land claim beside Scouters' Mountain and are the first to settle in what would become Happy Valley.²

October 1851 – John M. Deardorff claims 320 acres next to his parents' claim.³

1852 – Francis and Amanda Talbert and their children travel the Oregon Trail and arrive in Oregon. Francis would receive a Donation Land Claim in present-day Happy Valley. Francis' son, John A. Talbert, would serve in many public positions including in the state legislature. Mount Talbert was likely named after the family.⁴

1858 – The historic Deardorff Barn is constructed on the property of John M. Deardorff.⁵



John A. Talbert

Courtesy: Clackamas County Historical Society



The Deardorff Barn, 1989

Photo by Bud Unruh

1865 – Harvey Scott, the namesake of Mount Scott, becomes the editor of *The Oregonian*.⁶

January 6, 1876 – A travelled road going from Harmony to Damascus is established as County Road #96. This road is today's SE Sunnyside Road.⁷



Sunnyside Road with Mount Scott in background, photo taken from site of present-day Clackamas Promenade, early 1900s

Courtesy: Sunnyside Elementary School

1884 – The Sunnyside School is established at the northeast corner of present-day 122nd and Sunnyside Roads.⁸

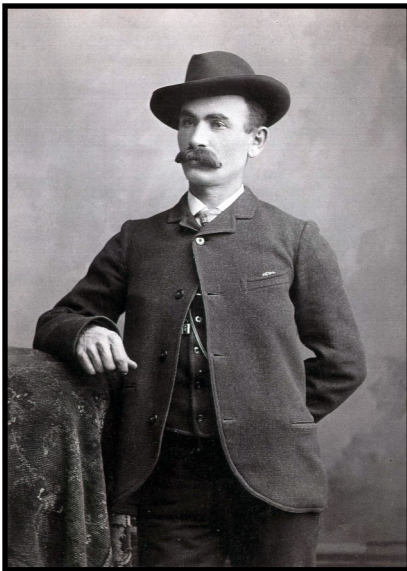
December 14, 1884 – Christian Deardorff passes away and is buried in the Christilla Pioneer Cemetery on Scouters' Mountain.⁹

1890 – George, Charles F. and John C. Zinser each build homes in Happy Valley and the Zinser family becomes one of the longest residing families in Happy Valley.¹⁰



Sunnyside School, 1927

Courtesy: Sunnyside Elementary School



Charles Frederick (Fred) Zinser

Courtesy: The Zinser family

April 30, 1891 – Matilda Deardorff passes away and is buried in the Christilla Pioneer Cemetery on Scouters' Mountain.¹¹

1892 – A small one-room schoolhouse opens on land donated to the county from John Deardorff's land claim.¹²

1898 – The area going north to Foster Road is surveyed for a new county road. This would be an important route for valley residents to reach the markets on Foster. Today, the road begins as 132nd Avenue and becomes Deardorff Road.¹³

Students at recess at the first Happy Valley school, 1912

Courtesy: Clackamas County Historical Society



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Created by Mark Hurlburt

Mark is a lifelong Happy Valley resident. He graduated with a B.S. in History from Portland State University in 2010, joined the Clackamas County Historical Society as a volunteer in 2011 and was hired as their Volunteer Coordinator in 2012. If you would like to learn more about Happy Valley and Clackamas County history, please feel free to visit CCHS, which is located in Oregon City.